

U.S. Senator Tim Scott

South Carolina

# Opportunity Agenda

## The SKILLS Act

The SKILLS Act, S.1911, transforms our broken workforce system into a more responsive and efficient system that will better enable workers to compete in the 21st century economy. Despite the billions of taxpayer dollars we spend annually on federal job training programs, there are nearly 4 million unfilled jobs yet 11 million Americans remain unemployed. We need to bridge this gap and the SKILLS Act helps get us there by empowering job creators, reducing bureaucracy, and providing American workers with a more flexible and effective workforce system.

Streamlines and eliminates 35 ineffective and duplicative programs and creates a single Workforce Investment Fund—this will create a more user-friendly system and ensure more resources reach the end user by reducing administrative overhead.

Strengthens business engagement in state and local workforce decisions, requiring a two-thirds business majority on Workforce Investment Boards.

Increases state and local flexibility to enable greater efficiency and better alignment of the system to local needs and priorities.

Repeals 19 federal mandates pertaining to the composition of the boards.  
Allows governors to consolidate additional programs to maximize delivery of services.

Supports education and training opportunities.

Ensures accountability for the use of taxpayer funds.

Reauthorizes the Workforce Investment Act at FY2013 levels.

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